

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method to determine in a network component when to provide service to client devices operating in power-saving mode in a wireless network, said method comprising:

receiving requests for service from respective ones of said client devices, the received requests for service including a scheduled request received from a first one of the client devices and an unscheduled request received from a second one of the client devices, said network component being informed of said scheduled request by a field of a traffic specification format being set to a first value, said network component being informed of said unscheduled request by said field of said traffic specification format being set to a second value different from said first value;

determining an ability to accommodate said received requests for service; and

providing respective indications of the ability to accommodate said received requests for service to the first and second ones of said client devices.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising, in response to being unable to accommodate the unscheduled request, providing a proposed service schedule to the second one of the client devices.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said scheduled request includes a proposed service schedule.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 3, further comprising modifying said proposed service schedule.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 4, further comprising providing said modified proposed service schedule to said first one of the client devices.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said indications are selected from a group consisting of: denied, accommodated with change, and accommodated.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining the ability to accommodate is based on at least one factor selected from a group consisting of: a requested servicing method, a proposed schedule, network operating state, network policy, and network condition.

8. (Previously Presented) A device to determine when to provide service to client devices operating in power-saving mode in a wireless network, said device comprising:

a memory;

a processor in communication with said memory, said processor operable to execute code to:

receive requests for service from respective ones of said client devices, the received requests including a scheduled request received from a first one of the client devices and an unscheduled request received from a second one of the client devices, said device being informed of said scheduled request by a field of a traffic specification format being set to a first value, said device being informed of said unscheduled request by said field of said traffic specification format being set to a second value different from said first value;

determine an ability to accommodate said received requests for service; and

provide respective indications of the ability to accommodate said received requests for service to the first and second ones of said client devices.

9. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein said processor is further operable to execute said code to, in response to being unable to accommodate the unscheduled request, provide a proposed service schedule to the second one of the client devices.

10. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein said scheduled request includes a proposed service schedule.

11. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 10, wherein said processor is further operable to execute said code to: modify said proposed service schedule.

12. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 11, wherein said processor is further operable to execute said code to: provide said modified service schedule to said first one of the client devices.

13. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein said indications are selected from a group consisting of: denied, accommodated with change, and accommodated.

14. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein said determine said ability to accommodate is based on at least one factor selected from a group consisting of: a requested servicing method, a proposed schedule, network operating state, network policy, and network condition.

15. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, further comprising: an I/O device operable as an interface between said network and said processor.

16. (Original) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein said code is stored in said memory.

17. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

- a receiving device to receive said requests; and
- a transmitting device to provide said respective indications to the first and second ones of said client devices.

18. (Previously Presented) A processor within a network component to determine an ability of said network component to honor requests for service received from respective client devices, said processor being configured to execute code to cause the network component to:

- review an operating state of said network component;
- review said requests for service, the requests for service including a scheduled request received from a first one of the client devices and an unscheduled request received from a second one of the client devices, said network component being informed of said scheduled request by a field of a traffic specification format being set to a first value, said network component being informed of said unscheduled request by said field of said traffic specification format being set to a second value different from said first value;
- accommodate said requests for service, with modification when necessary, when said operating state indicates that said requests for service are able to be accommodated; and
- provide respective indications of said accommodation to said first and second one of the client devices.

19. (Previously Presented) The processor as recited in claim 18, wherein said processor is further configured to execute code to cause the network component to:

- provide respective indications of denying said requests for service to the first and second ones of the client devices when said operating state indicates that said requests for service are unable to be accommodated.

20. (Currently Amended) The processor as recited in claim 18, wherein said operating state is selected from a group consisting of: processing load, demand, projected processing load, projected demand, network component operating state, network component policy, and network component condition.

21. (Previously Presented) The processor as recited in claim 18, wherein said processor is further adapted to execute code to cause the network component to, in response to being unable to accommodate the unscheduled request, provide a proposed service schedule to the second one of the client devices.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer readable media whose contents cause a processor to execute instructions to cause a network component to:

receive requests for service from client devices, the received requests including a scheduled request received from a first one of the client devices and an unscheduled request received from a second one of the client devices;

become informed of the scheduled request based on a field of a traffic specification format being set to a first value;

become informed of the unscheduled request by said field of said traffic specification format being set to a second value different from said first value;

determine an ability to accommodate said received requests for service; and

provide respective indications of the ability to accommodate said received requests for service to the first and second ones of said client devices.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable media of claim 22 wherein execution of the instructions further causes the network component to, in response to being unable to accommodate the unscheduled request, provide a proposed service schedule to the second one of the client devices.